

MY NEW FRIEND IS A CAT



BY JAEJ JACKSON



Chapter

1

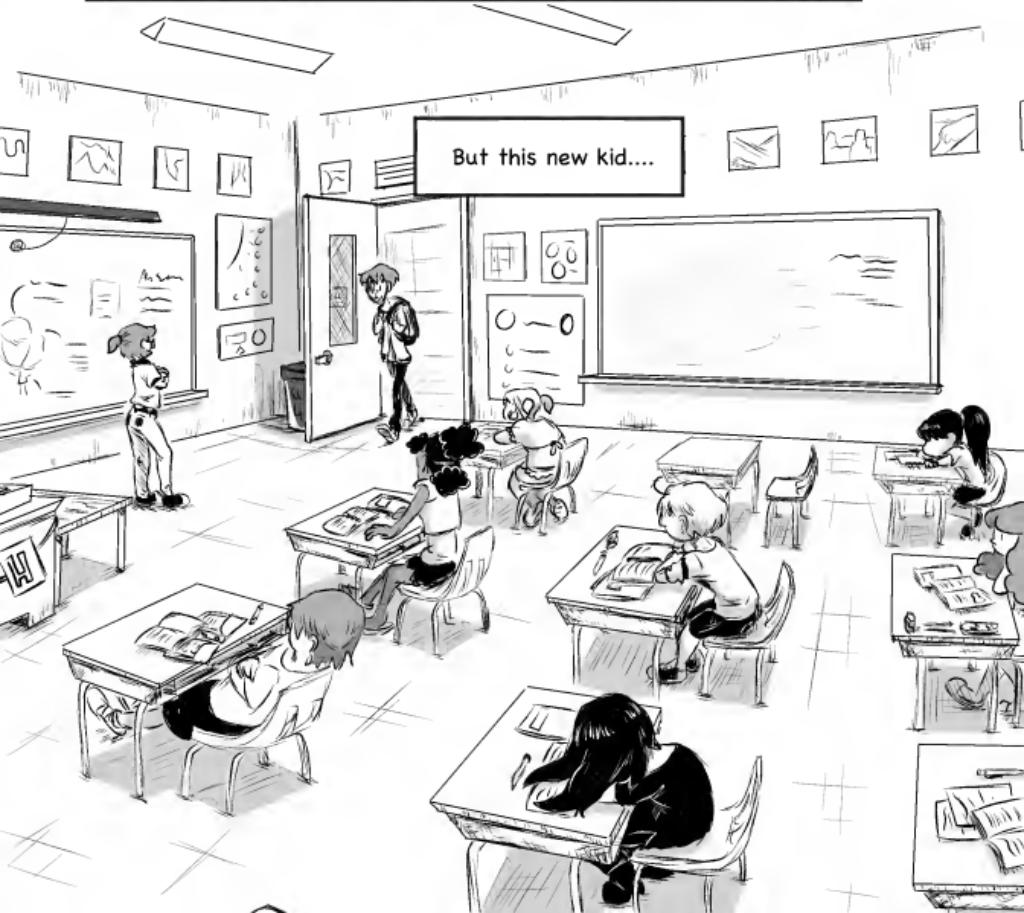
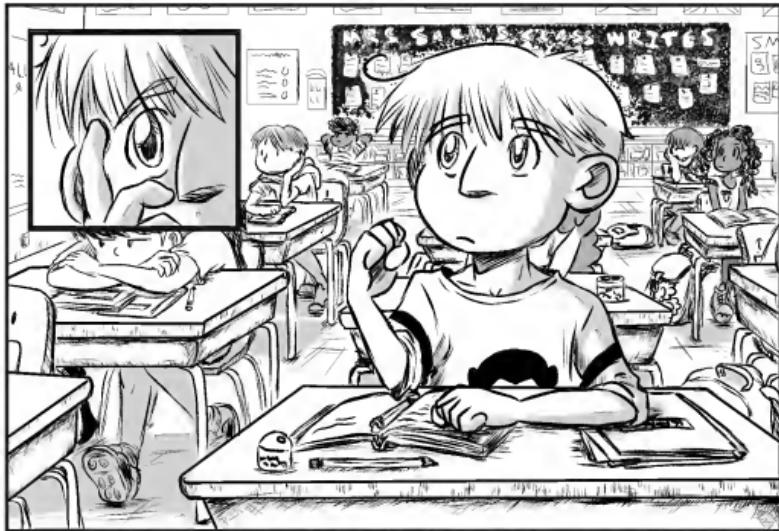


We've had new students before, but they're never anything special.

It'd be different if they had come from a different country or something else cool. But that's never how it is.

They just end up being normal kids who moved across town or from another state.

Typical...



He's lived
in this town
his whole life.

Even went to
this school.

He's a
year older...
Incredibly tall...

And he
wears...



This is France Howards.



France, would you like to say something to the class?





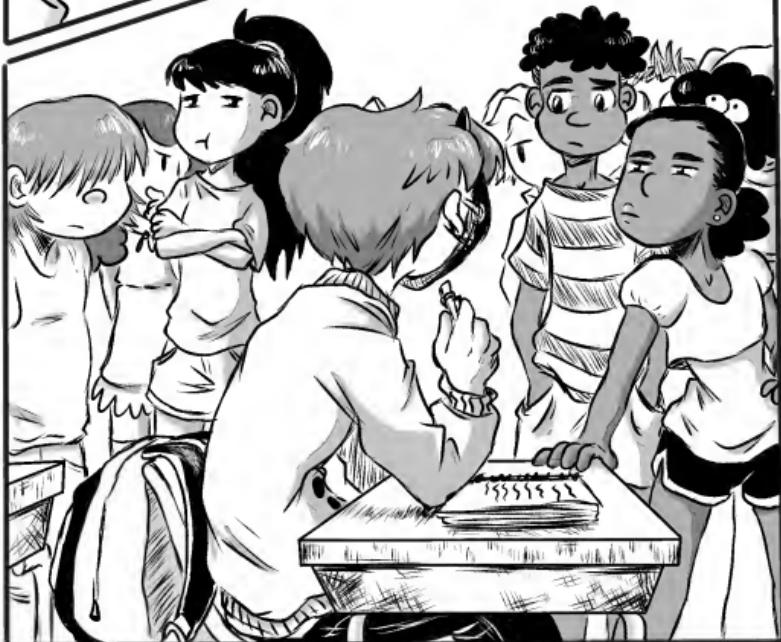
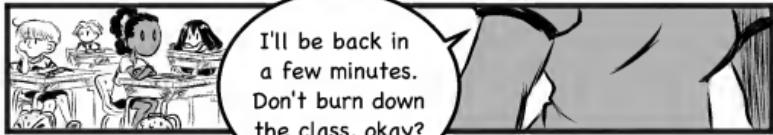
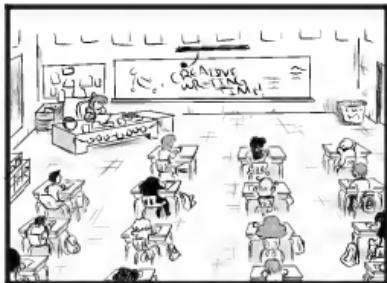


The teacher
never did mention
the cat mask,
And as for France...

He only talked
when the teacher
called on him, and
the rest of the time he
just took notes quietly,
trying to blend in...



"Trying", anyways...



So are you
from France?

How tall
are you?

Are you
really
a cat?

My uncle says
he lost his innocence
in France. Do you
think you can find it?
I'm sure he'd like
it back.

Can you
speak cat?

Are you a
criminal?

Why'd you
ditch school
for a year?

Have you
ever been
to France?

Take off
the mask!

You look smart
can you help me
with my math
homework?

My cat
Mr. Wobbles
looks just like
your mask.

Are you really
10, because you
look like
you're 16.

Do you have a
girlfriend or not?

What's
wrong
with your
left ear?

Hey...!

So are you gonna tell us
why you're wearing
a cat mask or not?



No Fair,
tell us!

I knew it!
you are a cat
under that mask!

Can you
even see
in that thing?

Come on,
why are you
a cat?

Forget that
do you have
a girlfriend!?



Everyone kept asking questions like that for weeks, but then...they just stopped.

France's "new kid" popularity went away just as quickly as it came.

And he got the isolation he clearly wanted.





Ken's got a GIRLFRIEND!

I do not!

You
fart-heads
always say
that
whenever
I make
a mixtape
for a girl.



In my class, I'm considered
the "mixtape" guy.
Everyone's got their thing,
and mine just happens
to be an awesome
taste in music.



not
really
this



Sure, it's a weird
talent, but at least
no one can steal
it from me.

In my 9 long years
I've discovered
the perfect way to
make the best
personalized playlist
every time!



He just
stalks them



So what's the
first song
gonna be?



Sis has really been into watching 90's magical girl anime lately.

Her twin brother

Okay, so maybe an opening song to something like Cardcaptor Sakura or Kodocha?

Well, actually...

Kodocha was a late 90's shoujo title that didn't have any magic in it at all.

likes to watch anime analysis videos on youtube

But it did come from the same studio as a lot of magical girl anime.

And it had a romantic subplot that was similar to a lot of magical girl anime back then.

Right, my bad...

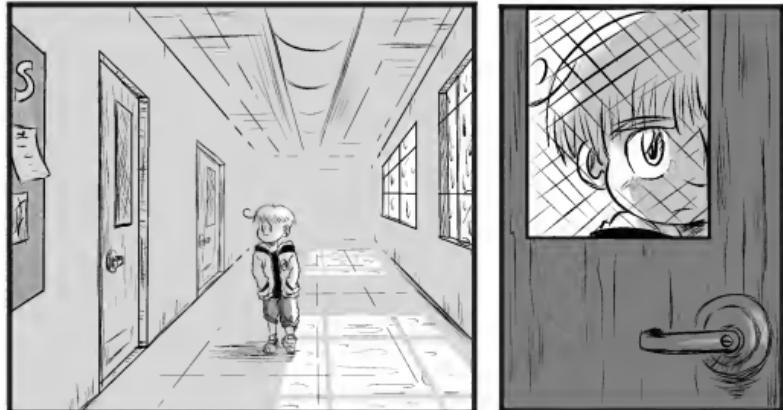
I'll probably need to write that down...

Huh?

Crap, I forgot my notebook in my backpack.



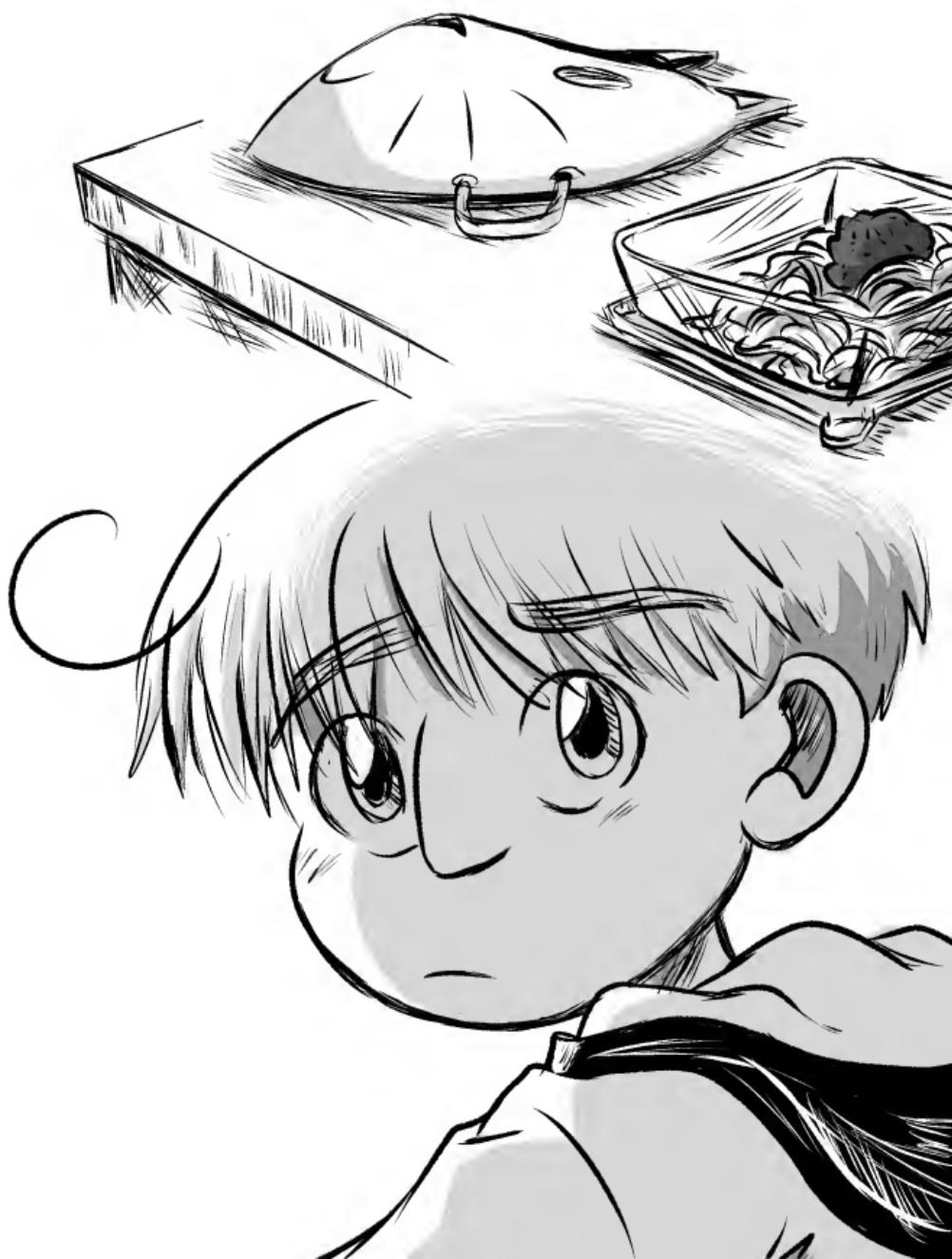
The "mixtape notes"...notebook
[it needs a new name]





CLICK





France...?



France!
Your
drink!



France,
seriously!

What's your
problem!?





I don't
get it.

Why...

Why won't you
show your face?



sob

...



HUH!?

Why are
you crying!?

I didn't do
anything to you!

It's not my
fault, is it!?

Come on,
stop crying!



Please...
just go...



Please...









To be continued...





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